

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method of reducing cell proliferation or extracellular matrix production caused by zveg3 in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal a composition comprising a zveg3 antagonist in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable delivery vehicle, in an amount sufficient to reduce ~~cell proliferation or extracellular matrix production~~ zveg3 activity, wherein said zveg3 antagonist is an antibody that specifically binds to a dimeric protein having two polypeptide chains, wherein each of said polypeptide chains consists of a sequence of amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

residues 230-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 231-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 232-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 233-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 234-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 235-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 236-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 237-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 238-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 239-345 of SEQ ID NO:2; and  
 residues 240-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;

whereby administration of the composition to the mammal results in reduction of cell proliferation or extracellular matrix production caused by zveg3.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein proliferation of mesangial, endothelial, smooth muscle, fibroblast, osteoblast, osteoclast, stellate, or interstitial cells is reduced.

3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein extracellular matrix production is reduced.

4. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the mammal is suffering from a fibroproliferative disorder of the liver.

5. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the mammal is suffering from a fibroproliferative disorder of the kidney.

6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the mammal is suffering from a fibroproliferative disorder of bone.

7-8. (canceled)

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) A method of treating fibrosis caused by zveg3 in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal a composition comprising ~~a therapeutically effective amount of~~ a zveg3 antagonist in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable delivery vehicle, in an amount sufficient to reduce zveg3 activity, wherein the zveg3 antagonist is an antibody that specifically binds to a dimeric protein having two polypeptide chains, wherein each of said polypeptide chains consists of a sequence of amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

residues 230-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 231-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 232-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 233-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 234-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 235-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 236-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 237-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 238-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 239-345 of SEQ ID NO:2; and  
 residues 240-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;

whereby administration of the composition to the mammal results in treatment of fibrosis caused by zveg3.

12. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein the fibrosis is liver fibrosis.

13. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein the fibrosis is kidney fibrosis.

14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) A method of reducing stellate cell activation caused by zveg3 in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal a composition comprising a zveg3 antagonist in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable delivery vehicle, in an amount sufficient to reduce ~~stellate cell activation~~ zveg3 activity, wherein the zveg3 antagonist is an antibody that specifically binds to a dimeric protein having two polypeptide chains, wherein each of said polypeptide chains consists of a sequence of amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

residues 230-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 231-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 232-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 233-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 234-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 235-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 236-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 237-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 238-345 of SEQ ID NO:2;  
 residues 239-345 of SEQ ID NO:2; and  
 residues 240-345 of SEQ ID NO:2.

whereby administration of the composition to the mammal results in reduction of stellate cell activation caused by zveg3.

18. (original) The method of claim 17 wherein the stellate cells are liver stellate cells.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the antibody is a single-chain antibody.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the antibody is a humanized antibody.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the antibody is a single-chain antibody.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the antibody is a humanized antibody.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the antibody is a single-chain antibody.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the antibody is a humanized antibody.